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REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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Proposed Aligning of the East German Scientific Council with the Other Soviet Bloc Scientific Councils

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1. The Scientific Council (Wissenschaftlicher Rat) of the East German State Planning Commission is one of the central organizations¹ which are authorized to forward requests for scientific-technical cooperation applying to a country of the Soviet Bloc to the East German Office for Scientific-Technical Cooperation (Büro fuer Wissenschaftlich-Technische Zusammenarbeit - WTZ). In 1954, for the first time, the Scientific Council exercised this prerogative by transmitting to the WTZ two requests for the USSR. These requests were to be carried out in 1955 after Soviet approval was obtained. The requests
- a. Information on the planning system in the USSR, with particular emphasis on the administrative functions and their limitations (Abgrenzung der Verwaltungsbereiche) of the individual Soviet Ministries.
 - b. Information on the functions of the government in investment matters. In particular: what the extent of the authority invested in the Scientific Council of the Soviet State Planning Commission in matters of investments?
2. The two requests of the Scientific Council were caused by the experiences of members of the East German Scientific Council during a meeting in Warsaw in August 1954 with the Polish Scientific Council. The East German representatives there found that many important administrative features of planning, and in particular the jurisdiction of the Scientific Council in investment matters, were handled differently in Poland from the way they are handled in East Germany. Inquiries by the East German delegation brought the information that the Polish planning administration follows the Russian model more closely than the East German one. The requests mentioned above were made in an effort to obtain the information necessary to enable East Germany to improve its planning administration in accordance with the Russian model. Mention of this motivation was added to the two requests when they were forwarded to the WTZ.
3. The two requests of the Scientific Council members 1 and 2, i.e. the requests aim at obtaining the necessary information and also include an

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application for the dispatching (Entsendung) of East German delegations to the USSR for the purpose of making first-hand studies there of the problems involved.

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